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stage, when paid quarterly in advance, five cents.

For "The Friend."

The Approaching Transit of Venus.

(Continued from page 117.)

The astronomer, then, having possessed himself of these proportions, proceeds to make a practical application of them in ascertaining the sun's distance, in this way. He first takes beforehand upon two suitable, remote stations on the earth, and then employs competent observers to watch from them the passage of the planet across the sun's face. One method of obtaining the exact measure of the distance asunder of the transit-tracks on the sun's face, is for the observers to note the precise time that is occupied by each passage. Then, since the apparent angular motion *per hour*, that is their change of apparent place among the stars, both of Venus and the sun, the time, is known, we can deduce from the time occupied by the transit, as seen by each observer, the *length of the transit track* expressed in minutes and seconds of an arc. Next—assuming that the tracks are straight and parallel (which is very nearly the case)—since the sun's face is a circle, the diameter of which at the time (also expressed in minutes and seconds of an arc) is accurately known, we can calculate exactly the relative position of the two tracks or chords, in the said circle, and hence also their precise *distance apart*, expressed in seconds of an arc. This distance apart can also be obtained, but not so accurately, by each observer taking frequent measurements during the transit, of the angular distance of the track from the edge of the sun's disk. But this distance apart of the two tracks marked, as it were, across the sun's face, by whatever method obtained, is their parent distance apart *as viewed from the earth*. The same *absolute* distance on the sun's face, if viewed from Venus and measured there, would subtend an angle greater than that measured at the earth exactly in the proportion that the earth's distance is greater than the distance of Venus, that is in the proportion that 1000 is greater than 723, because the nearer an object is to us the larger is the *visual* angle that it will subtend. Suppose now the observed angle of separation of the two tracks seen by two remote observers on the earth's surface and measured in the manner just described, is found to be 35 seconds:

the same distance on the sun's face if viewed from Venus would subtend an angle of $48\frac{1}{2}$ seconds, because $48\frac{1}{2}$ is greater than 35 in the proportion that 1000 is greater than 723.

Now, if a straight line were drawn from one of our earth-stationed observers through Venus to the sun, it would terminate in the imaginary line that we have supposed to be drawn on the sun's disk to represent the apparent path of Venus across the sun as seen by that observer. If then two such lines be drawn at the same instant, one from each observer, they will cross each other at the planet, say at its centre, and will there form four angles, two of them very large and equal to each other, and two of them very small and also equal to each other.* Now, the latter pair of opposite angles, the one towards the sun is, in the case supposed above, $48\frac{1}{2}$ seconds, and therefore the other angle, that is the one towards the earth, is also $48\frac{1}{2}$ seconds. But this last angle is the apparent or angular distance apart of the two earth-stationed observers as seen from Venus.

We will next assume that our two observers are 6000 miles apart (as measured along a line at right angles to the line joining the earth and Venus.) Now we know how far apart two lines diverging at an angle of $48\frac{1}{2}$ seconds are at any given distance from the angle or point of divergence, and vice versa. At one mile from the angle they are 235 millionths of a mile asunder: at one million miles, therefore, they are separated by a space of 235 miles; and hence, by a simple proportion we learn that where the said lines are 6,000 miles apart the point of divergence must be distant about 25,500,000 miles. This, then, is about the distance of Venus when she is between us and the sun, if the data we have assumed are correct. But we want to know the distance of the sun. As already stated, the relative mean distances of Venus and the earth from the sun are 723 and 1000: when, therefore, they are in a line the distance of Venus from the earth on the same scale will be represented by the *difference* of these numbers, that is by 277, as already explained. We say then, as 277 is to 1000 so is 25,500,000 miles, (the distance of Venus from us) to the distance of the sun, which, by working out this proportion, we find to be about 92,000,000 miles. In the foregoing we have used the relative *mean* distances of the earth and Venus from the sun. The variation from these in different parts of their orbits is considerable. The astronomer is of course careful to use the true relative distances as they actually are at the time of the transit, these being of course affected by the ellipticity of the two orbits and the "perturbations" of the other planets and of our moon. There are other circumstances which have to be taken into account in determining by this method the sun's parallax; but these have not been introduced in

* It will assist the reader to draw the figure.

the foregoing explanation, as our aim has been simply to give the reader an idea of the general principles.

The transits of Mercury and Venus are said to have been first predicted by Kepler. He announced a transit of Mercury for 1631, and two of Venus for 1631 and 1761. The transit of Mercury was observed by Gassendi, a distinguished French mathematician and philosopher. That of Venus in the same year was not seen in consequence of the sun being at the time below the horizon of observers in western Europe. Another transit of Venus, which Kepler had not predicted, was observed in 1639, near Liverpool, by Jeremiah Horrocks, a young Englishman who had six years before discovered that the transit would take place, although he announced the fact to no one except to his friend William Crabtree, of Manchester. Crabtree watched for the new phenomenon, but owing to the clouds he caught but one view of it a few minutes before sunset.

As early as 1663, the ingenious James Gregory (the inventor of the Gregorian telescope) pointed out the use that could be made of transits of Venus for obtaining the solar parallax, and subsequently Dr. Halley made a similar suggestion, and proposed a method for carrying it into effect. He could not expect to live until the occurrence of the next transit, (he died in 1742, in his eighty-sixth year,) but he exhorted his successors to prepare themselves for the event. Accordingly extensive preparations were made for observing the transit of 1761 for this purpose, and expeditions were sent to such remote stations as were considered the most eligible and accessible. Some of the principal of these were Tobolsk, Calcutta, Madras, St. Helena, the Cape of Good Hope and the small island of Rodrigue, in the Indian ocean. But unfavorable weather at some of the stations and other difficulties that had not been provided for, prevented the full success of the undertaking. From some of the more reliable observations a parallax of $8\frac{1}{2}$ seconds was deduced, but according to Pingré the collected results gave a parallax as great as $10\frac{1}{2}$ seconds. The former value makes the sun's distance about 96 million miles, and the latter about 78 millions. Such a discrepancy was mortifying, and astronomers, feeling determined to profit by the experience they had gained in 1761, looked forward with some impatience to the next transit which was to happen just eight years after, to wit on the 3rd of Sixth month, 1769. Accordingly in that year the renowned navigator, Captain Cook, was sent to Otaheite, in the South Pacific, to watch the appearance of the transit, while a large band of astronomers were to be engaged in the same way in the opposite hemisphere of the earth, viz: at Cape Wardhus, Kola, St. Petersburg, Yakutsk and other places in the far north, and at various points in Europe and Asia. Observations were made at about fifty stations in Europe, at six or

more in Asia, and some seventeen in America. There were two stations in California, and one on the west coast of Hudson's Bay, in latitude $58^{\circ} 47\frac{1}{2}'$ North. Among the American observations may be especially noted (both on account of their real value and as a matter of interest to the readers of "The Friend") those made at three stations in and near Philadelphia, by committees appointed for the purpose by the American Philosophical Society, viz: in the State House Square, Philadelphia, at the residence of David Rittenhouse, Norriton (about 20 miles N. W. of Philadelphia), and near Cape Henlopen, Delaware.*

After the various observations had been brought together and collated, there was found to be more discrepancy than had been anticipated in the results obtained from different pairs of observations; but by using those which from the relative situations of the observers and other circumstances were the most reliable, the values obtained for the sun's mean horizontal parallax by different astronomers, varied from 8.47 seconds to 8.92 seconds, the former indicating a distance of 96,480,000, the latter 91,620,000 miles.

(To be continued.)

For "The Friend."

Mixed Marriages.

There can hardly be a doubt that the ground of the testimony our early Friends had against mixed marriages, was because of their fear that from the want of congeniality induced by dissimilar educational training, and especially from diversity in religious sentiment, such parties could not live so harmoniously, or the domestic nest be so happy and sweet as when the religious views are the same, and the intellectual status not much unlike. A good deal of stress should properly be placed upon this, because much of the congeniality of heart and mind is fairly attributable to such significant fact. For instance, how generally well understood is the frequency with which even those who love each other, do not see eye to eye, and harmonizing in Christian belief and in Christian doctrine. A large part of the troubles and animosities, and even deadly strifes that have disturbed society and afflicted christendom in general, is attributable to this fruitful source. Hence, have we any ground to expect that where parties, whose religious training and moral and intellectual culture have been greatly different, are brought into such endearing, at least close, because life-enduring bond, that they will be so likely to coalesce, and to sail smoothly over life's troubled sea? Facts very greatly disprove such hypothesis. And then also—a resultant by no means to be overlooked in this connexion—if the parties have children, what will likely be the effect upon them? Will not indetermination, doubt or indifference, and ultimate estrangement be the probable, legitimate, bitter fruits?

How wisely forecasting and restraining,

then, is the following from our excellent code of Discipline: "It is advised, that parents exercise a religious care in watching over their children, and in endeavoring to *guard them against* improper connexions in marriage; that they (to continue the quotation) be not anxious to obtain for them large portions and settlements, but that they be joined with persons of religious inclinations, suitable dispositions and diligence in their business, which are more necessary to a comfortable life in a married state." And also the subjoined from the same, which is required to be read annually in our Preparative or Monthly Meetings: "That no young or single persons make or encourage proposals of marriage with each other without consent of parents or guardians, or keep company with those not of our religious Society upon that account; and if parents give their consent to, or connive at their children's thus keeping company, or marrying, that they be dealt with according to our Discipline."

In Friend's Library, vol. 12, pp. 433, 434, is the following account given by Martha Routh, while on a religious visit to the inhabitants of the island of Nantucket, in the year 1795. It sorrowfully represents how the sad fruits of disobedience sometimes press heavily upon us, when the awful messenger of death presents that serious view of things which should be allowed their due place in health and strength; and when the painful consequence might have been averted: "We had an opportunity of sitting with a widowed Friend and her surviving children, who had that day buried her eldest daughter, a very comely young woman, who about eleven months before, contrary to her mother's and friends' advice, had gone out in marriage with one not of our Society. When so ill that her dissolution appeared near, she requested to see me, if I was free to go. My dear friend, E. Rotch, accompanying me, we went and sat by her; an affecting time indeed it was; her near relations were in great distress, and her own was almost insupportable, begging earnestly in a plaintive language, that seemed almost to pierce my soul, for a little longer time, that she might be favored to feel a hope of reconciliation to the Almighty, and to her friends; saying, she was afraid she had been deceived in thinking she had a right to choose for herself in the step she had taken.

"I could say very little, but recommended to her and those about her, as much stillness and inward retirement as they could attain, and to seek the Father and Fountain of all sure mercies; feeling little or no evidence respecting her life or death, acceptance or rejection by the Lord; yet I expressed a hope that a little longer time would be given, remembering the compassion of Christ to the thief on the cross. This proved to be the case; during which time my mind was brought under an unusual travail, both by day and night, on her account. When I went to see her again, she lay very quiet, though in great bodily pain, and seemed to have a ray of hope; saying, all she could endure while she lived, she desired to bear with patience, if her time might be lengthened until her peace was more fully made. While sitting with her, I was not afraid to believe or mention, the evidence vouchsafed, that there was mercy for her with the Lord; at which she seemed much tendered.

"On seeing her again, she had in the interim

undergone much painful conflict; and going in with L. R. a few hours before her close, one of her sisters thought her in a quiet sleep, but on going to her I found it was the sleep of death, which took place in about three hours. Nothing that could be said would then affect her, but a passage of Scripture rising again with life, which had opened living in my view when sitting by her on former visit, though not then to make mention of, I believed I was now commissioned to drop it: 'Comfort ye, comfort ye my people,' &c.; for I have a firm belief 'her warfare was accomplished.' Which was matter of much consolation to her afflicted mother and relatives; yet I had strongly to recommend to the younger part of the family, that the deeply affecting and instructive lesson might not be forgotten, but remembered like 'the wormwood and the gall,' to the humbling their souls, which I thankfully hope will be the case with some of them at least."

That ancient Israelite and worthy seer John Churchman, has left us the annexed hints and cautions with respect to the marriage lessons in this very important step of life. A step which for good or evil involves so much, and has such a practical, swaying influence, both for time and eternity. It is thus, as an extract from a letter of his, introduced to the reader.

John Churchman's advice to a young woman on the subject of marriage: "I feel the anxious, perplexed state thy mind is in, though there be no objection as to outward circumstance, and thy relations and friends are pleased with the proposal. Yet as it is a concern of the utmost importance, it may seem difficult to determine." After some useful hints of his own experience he thus proceeds: "There are seasons when the mind, fixed in deep attention on the Sovereign Good, is composed and quiet, totally uninfluenced by outward objects, when human considerations lose their energy, and we, regardless of the sentiments of men, are only solicitous to gain the approbation of Heaven, and follow wheresoever He is pleased to lead, whether to do or to suffer. In these awful moments calmly weigh it, and see how it then appears, whether it brings uneasiness or a cloud, or otherwise; and let nothing prevent thy acting accordingly. At other times think as little about it as may be; it will but tend to puzzle and distress thy mind the more. Never let persuasion or the bias of affection induce thee to depart from the sense and judgment that is formed here. Be sure marry none but an Israelite. There is most assuredly to be met with by the honest inquirer, that which can direct to an heir of life." E. S. J.

Philada., 11th mo. 27th, 1873.

The Christian is the world's Bible, and the only one that it reads. If we take care this in this book be plainly shown the loving spirit, the grandeur and the winning friendliness of Christ, then shall we see many hearts open to receive this actual testimony of Christian life and suffering. For many of our opponents envy us in secret our Christian comfort in misfortune and under heavy losses. Their hearts are often stirred by a deep yearning after the support which bears us up; and this superiority of the Christian life can often drive the hardest heart to seek the help of our Lord. In fine, only life can beget life. Before such argument ancient Rome herself

* See Transactions of the American Philosophical Society, Vol. I. The Committee for the Observatory in the State-House Square, were John Ewing, Joseph Shippen, Dr. Hugh Williamson, Charles Thompson and Thomas Prior. For the Norriton Observatory were appointed William Smith, Provost of the College of Philadelphia, John Lukens, Surveyor General of Pennsylvania, David Rittenhouse, of Norriton, and John Sellers, Representative in Assembly for Chester county. The Cape Henlopen observations were conducted by Owen Biddle and Joel Bailey, assisted by Richard Thomas of Chester county.

the mightiest empire of the world, and the most hostile to christianity, could not stand. Let us live in like manner, and then, (though I should have a short-lived triumph) eventually must be fulfilled what Augustine says: "Love is the fulfilling of the truth."—*Prof. Theodore Christlieb, of Bonn, before the N. Y. Conference of the Evangelical Alliance.*

Comets.

(Continued from page 115.)

THE DISINTEGRATION OF COMETS.

The fact that in several instances meteoric streams move in orbits identical with those of certain comets was first established by the researches of Signor Schiaparelli. The theory, however, of an intimate relationship between comets and meteors was advocated by the writer as long since as 1861,—several years previous to the publication of Schiaparelli's memoirs. In the essay here referred to it was mentioned—

1. That meteors and meteoric rings "are the *débris* of ancient but now disintegrated comets whose matter has become distributed around their orbits."

2. That the separation of Biela's comet as it approached the sun in December, 1845, was but one in a series of similar processes which could probably continue until the individual fragments would become invisible.

3. That certain luminous meteors have entered the solar system from the interstellar spaces.

4. That the orbits of some meteors and periodic comets have been transformed into ellipses by planetary perturbation; and

5. That numerous facts—some observed in ancient and some in modern times—have been decidedly indicative of cometary disintegration.

What was thus proposed as theory has been since confirmed as undoubted facts. When the hypothesis was originally advanced, the data required for its mathematical demonstration were entirely wanting. The evidence, however, by which it was sustained was sufficient to give it a high degree of probability. The existence of a divellent force by which comets near their perihelia have been separated into parts is clearly shown by the following facts. Whether this force, as suggested by Schiaparelli, is simply the unequal attraction of the sun on different parts of the nebulous mass, or whether, in accordance with the views of other astronomers, it is to be regarded as a cosmical force of repulsion, is a question left for future discussion.

HISTORICAL FACTS.

1. Seneca informs us that Ephoras, a Greek writer of the fourth century before Christ, had recorded the singular fact of a comet's separation into two distinct parts. This statement is deemed incredible by the Roman philosopher, inasmuch as the occurrence was then without a parallel. More recent observations of similar phenomena leave no room to question the historian's veracity.

2. The head of the great comet of A. D. 389, according to the writers of that period, was composed of several small stars." (*Hind's Comets*, p. 103.)

3. On June 27, A. D. 416, two comets appeared in the constellation Hercules, and pursued nearly the same apparent path. Probably at a former epoch the pair had constituted a single comet.

4. On August 4, 813, "a comet was seen which resembled two moons joined together." They subsequently separated, the fragments assuming different forms.

5. The Chinese annals record the appearance of three comets—one large and two smaller ones—at the same time, in the year 896 of our era. "They traveled together for three days. The little ones disappeared first, and then the large one." The bodies were probably fragments of a large comet which, on approaching the sun, had been separated into parts a short time previous to the date of their discovery.

6. The third comet of 1618.—The great comet of 1618 exhibited decided symptoms of disintegration. When first observed (on November 30,) its appearance was that of a lucid and nearly spherical mass. On the eighth day the process of division was distinctly noticed, and on the 20th of December it resembled a cluster of small stars.

7. The comet of 1661.—The elements of the comets of 1532 and 1661 have a remarkable resemblance, and previous to the year 1790 astronomers regarded the bodies as identical. The return of the comet about 1790, though generally expected, was looked for in vain. As a possible explanation of this fact, it is interesting to recur to an almost forgotten statement of Hevelius. This astronomer observed in the comet of 1661 an apparent breaking up of the body into separate fragments. The case may be analogous to that of Biela's comet.

8. The identity of the comets of 1866 and 1366, first suggested by Professor H. A. Newton, is now unquestioned. The existence then of a meteoric swarm, moving in the same track, is not the only evidence of the original comet's partial dissolution. The comet of 1866 was invisible to the naked eye; that of 1366, seen under nearly similar circumstances, was a conspicuous object. The statement of the Chinese historian that "it appeared nearly as large as a tow measure," though somewhat indefinite, certainly justifies the conclusion that its magnitude has greatly diminished during the last 500 years. The meteors moving in the same orbit are doubtless the products of this gradual separation.

9. The bipartition of Biela's comet in 1845, as well as the non-appearance of the two fragments in 1865 and 1872, were referred to in a previous chapter.

The comet of Halley, if we may credit the descriptions given by ancient writers, has been decreasing in brilliancy from age to age. The same is true in regard to several others believed to be periodic. The comet of A. D. 1097 had a tail 50° long. At its return, in March, 1840, the length of its tail was only 5°. The third comet of 1790 and the first of 1825 are supposed, from the similarity of their elements, to be identical. Each perihelion passage occurred in May, yet the tail at the former appearance was 4° in length, at the latter but 2½°. Other instances might be specified of this apparent gradual dissolution. It would seem, indeed, extremely improbable that the particles driven off from comets in their approach to the sun, forming tails extending millions of miles from the principal mass, should again be collected around the same nuclei.

The fact, then, that meteors move in the same orbits with comets is but a consequence of that disruptive process so clearly indicated

by the phenomena described. In this view of the subject, comets—even such as move in elliptic orbits—are not to be regarded as permanent members of the solar system. Their *débris* becomes gradually scattered around the orbit. Some parts of the nebulous ring will be more disturbed than others by planetary perturbation. Portions of such streams as nearly intersect the earth's path sometimes penetrate the atmosphere. Their rapid motion renders them luminous. If very minute, they are burnt up or dissipated without leaving any solid deposit; we then have the phenomena of *shooting-stars*. When, however, as is sometimes the case, they contain a considerable quantity of solid matter, they reach the earth's surface as *meteoric stones*.

(To be continued.)

Selected for "The Friend."

Extract from Biographical Sketches and Anecdotes of Friends.

While Mehitable Jenkins was in England on a religious visit, perhaps in the year 1787, she attended the circular meeting held at Exeter. Catharine Phillips was also at the meeting, and in the exercise of her beautiful and acceptable gift, spoke largely to those assembled. After Catharine had ceased, Mehitable, who was an illiterate woman, and not extensive as a minister, stood up and delivered a brief testimony. Some critical Quakeress, concerned perhaps for the literary reputation of the Society of Friends, complained to Timothy Berington, that such a Friend as Mehitable should speak in such a large meeting. The complainant thought that good order required that an opportunity should be taken with Mehitable to prevent the possibility of her disturbing large gatherings, and said that the Friend's gift appeared better adapted to small meetings of our own Society. Timothy Berington, from whom the anecdote is derived, replied to her, that he believed no harm had been done. It so happened that he had invited a man of some standing in Exeter, to attend this circular meeting, who had accepted the invitation. Soon after he met Timothy and expressed his warm thanks for the treat he had received. Timothy said he was pleased to find him so well satisfied, adding, "My friend Catharine Phillips is considered a great minister." "Yes," replied his friend, "we know Mrs. Phillips is a very sensible woman; we are therefore not surprised to hear her preach a good sermon; but the few words the elderly lady from America said, were to me far more weighty, and suited to my situation of mind than anything Mrs. Phillips had to say. I hope to be thankful as long as I live, for the great instruction, and sensible feeling of Divine goodness I experienced from the sweet, short sermon of your American Friend."

This anecdote is very much in accordance with the testimony of William Penn. The wife of Lord Baltimore, after attending a meeting for worship at the time of the Yearly Meeting in Maryland, told him she did not want to hear *him*, and such as he, for he was a scholar, and a wise man, and she did not question but he could preach; but she wanted to hear some of the mechanics preach—husbandmen, shoemakers, and such like rustics; for she thought they could not preach to any purpose. William told her, some of them were rather the best preachers we had among us.

The account of John Steel, and his testimony against those ancient apostates, John Wilkinson and John Story, is a strong illustration of the power of the Holy Spirit in qualifying illiterate instruments for the Lord's work. His testimony was in the words of William Penn, "Neither the wisdom of the North, nor the eloquence of the South, but the power of God through a ploughman, and marvellous in our eyes."

About 125 years ago, a Friend from England, on a religious visit to America, appointed a meeting in Philadelphia. After a time of silence a young man in his common working clothes, with a leathern band around his waist, arose from his seat about the middle of the meeting, and stepping into the passage-way began to preach with great energy and power. The youthful preacher was the illiterate Thos. Brown. The Friend who had appointed the meeting felt excused from any public labor therein, but was well satisfied with that which had taken place. After the close of the meeting some of his friends gathered round him, expressing their sorrow that another should have occupied the time so that he should have had no opportunity of relieving his mind. He replied, "The service fell upon the lad."

The Policeman's Dog.—In the riots of July, 1863, a patrolman was carrying Sergeant Buckley, badly wounded, on a stretcher to the Charles street police station. A black French poodle, followed the stretcher into the station, and thenceforth became the pet of the house. "Jim," as he was called, was supposed to have belonged to some colored family which had fled from the city. The men taught him many tricks. At roll-call he invariably headed the platoon and took his position by the sergeant. He was taught to distinguish one baton from another, and as he liked to fetch and carry, the officers let him bring their locusts. Bets were once made by the men that Jim could not distinguish between a genuine officer and a sham one. Officer Wiseburn, Jim's warmest friend, changed clothes with a fireman, who taking the locust in hand, walked up and down the street. Jim noticed him, darted out of the station, snuffed at the clothes, sat down for a moment, looking straight in the face of the disguised fireman, seemingly puzzled, sprang upon him, caught the club between his teeth, growled and pulled, until the fireman allowed himself to be led into the station, where he dropped the club. Jim carried it to Wiseburn, who was in the fireman's clothes.

Jim's good nature won for him the love of all the children in the neighborhood, and he became their playmate. He knew his friends, and never failed to resent an injury. There were two butchers in the rear of the station, one a good-natured Irishman, who kept in a basement, the other a German on the avenue. For some time, every morning and evening, he entered the stores and invited the butchers to feed him. The Irishman never failed to give him a hearty meal. The German rarely gave him a morsel, and once drove him out of the store. Many ladies knowing him had been accustomed to allow him to carry their baskets to market. Jim, on reaching the Irishman's store, ran in, compelling his patroness to follow him, thus materially adding to the Irish butcher's trade.

Jim's jumping feats were so extraordinary that the officers took a pride in showing him

off. One day, while he was exhibiting to a crowd of admirers by jumping on a pile of lumber, one of the heaviest boards tipped over and fell upon him, breaking one of his legs. With a howl of pain he hobbled off to officer Wiseburn's post.

"What's the matter, Jim?" asked Wiseburn.

The dog tried to show his broken leg. Wiseburn, stooping, saw the nature of Jim's injuries, and tenderly bore him to the station. The police surgeon pronounced Jim's wound fatal, and advised his being shot. Wiseburn would not suffer this, so he bandaged Jim's leg, put him into a basket filled with soft hay and warm clothes, tied him up and cared for him with a tenderness which seemed to win Jim's heart. It was many weeks before he was allowed to walk out.

Two years after the accident, one night as the officers were preparing to go on patrol, they saw Jim in Charles street, hobbling by the side of a small bulldog which he was supporting. Jim had picked up a dog that had been run over. On reaching the station he sought Wiseburn, who picked up the wounded dog and took care of him.—*New York paper.*

TO HANNAH MORE.

BY JOHN NEWTON.

Written in her Album at Cowslip Green, at her residence, when asked to insert his name previous to seeing her, as was the custom.

Why should you wish a name like mine,
Within your book to stand,
With those who shone and those who shine
As worthies in our land?

What will the future age have gained
When my poor name is seen,
From knowing I was entertained
By you at Cowslip Green.

Rather let me record a name
That shall adorn your page:
Which like the sun is still the same,
And shines from age to age.

Jesus, who found me when I strayed,
In Afric's dreary wild;
Who for my soul a ransom paid,
And made his foe a child.

He taught my wild blasphemous tongue,
To aim at prayer and praise,
To make his grace my theme and song,
And guided all my ways.

A pattern now of mercy's power,
Where'er I stand is seen,
Such as I think was ne'er before
Beheld at Cowslip Green.

Selected.

Selected.

HYMN IN THE PROSPECT OF DEATH.

Earth, with its dark and dreadful ills
Recedes, and fades away;
Lift up your heads, ye heavenly hills;
Ye gates of death, give way!

My soul is full of whispered song;
My blindness is my sight;
The shadows that I feared so long
Are all alive with light.

The while my pulses faintly beat,
My faith doth so abound,
I feel grow firm beneath my feet
The green, immortal ground.

That faith to me a courage gives,
Low as the grave to go;
I know that my Redeemer lives—
That I shall live I know.

The palace walls I almost see,
Where dwells my Lord and King;
O grave! where is thy victory?
O death! where is thy sting?

Alice Cary.

Scientific Notes.

In making skeleton leaves, the following method is recommended as superior to the old process of allowing the leaves to rot in water. Dissolve 4 ounces of washing soda in a quart of boiling water; then add 2 ounces of slaked quick lime, and boil for fifteen minutes. Allow it to cool and pour off the clear liquid. Heat it till it boils, and then put in the leaves to be prepared and boil them gently for an hour, or until the soft parts can readily be removed. This is best done by floating them on a board under cold water, and rubbing with a soft brush. If the skeletons are not pure white, bleach them by putting a table spoonful of chloride of lime in a quart of water, and soaking in the solution for ten or fifteen minutes.

The Queen Bee of our hives, it has long been known cannot sting. Recent examination has shown that she possesses this weapon, but that it is blunted and more curved than in the working bee, and she is not able to pierce the skin of man with it. On placing two Queen Bees in a glass jar, and closely watching their motions in attacking each other, each queen was seen to attempt to disable her rival as much as possible by means of her powerful jaws; at the same time she feels about with her sting, which is totally unable to penetrate the skin of her rival, till she finds one of the breathing holes, through which she injects her poison with a rapidly fatal effect.

Weeds.—A recent writer of a chemical turn of mind says: Two years ago I took a large house and grounds which had been uninhabited and utterly neglected for three years. The lawn is nearly an acre in extent. Dandelions, buttercups, plantains, docks, &c., were in the ascendant. After many attempts to eradicate them, I found at last that one drop of the common, strong sulphuric acid, dropped upon the crown of each weed entirely destroyed it, and it will never grow again. I used one of the ribbed bottles employed by chemists and photographers for dropping poisons, and found it to answer perfectly, and it enables one to apply the acid with great rapidity. Large docks, which have hitherto never been destroyed except by digging up, are effectually destroyed by the acid.

Lime as a preservative of wood. A writer in *Chambers' Journal* says, that lime is a good preserver of timber. Ships and barges used for the transport of lime last longer than others. A small coasting schooner laden with lime was cast ashore and sunk. She was raised and set afloat once more, and remained sound for 30 years. Again, a platform of nine planes was used to mix mortar on for a long time, but being no longer required, was neglected, and at length hidden by the grass that grew over it. Sixty years afterwards, on cleaning the ground, it was discovered sound and well preserved.

The great fires of Chicago and Boston have called attention to fire-resisting building stones. Dr. Ott of New York, shows that limestones are unsuitable for building stone, owing to the facility with which they calcine when exposed to high temperature. Among limestones, those which contain magnesia give way the soonest. Of the primitive rocks, granite, gneiss and mica are untrustworthy, for they crack to pieces even when exposed to radiant heat. In their natural state they contain water, and the stone ex-

odes by the raising of the temperature. For these reasons, Dr. Out gives the preference to the sandstones.

Blackly, in his "Experimental Researches on Hay Fever," details some experiments showing the amount of pollen floating in the air. He daily exposed slips of glass coated with a non-drying liquid, and placed horizontally, to the air at the ordinary breathing height of four feet nine inches from the ground. The experiments were commenced in the 4th month, and continued to the end of the 7th. The highest number of pollen grains obtained in twenty-four hours on the surface of a square centimetre was 880, on 6th month 28th. By using pieces of glass similarly prepared to an elevation of 1,000 feet or less in the atmosphere, by means of kites, he found the pollen is much more largely present in the upper portions of the atmosphere than near the surface, the average of his experiments making nineteen times as much. These experiments afforded abundant proof of the presence of the spores of fungi in the air in large quantities. In one experiment which lasted four hours, and in which the number of pollen grains collected at an altitude of 1,000 feet was over twelve hundred, the spores of a cryptogram were so numerous, that he could not count them. At a rough estimate they could not be less than from 30,000 to 40,000 to the square inch. A fact like this makes the ubiquity of fungoid organisms a thing easy to comprehend.

Watch springs, made of an alloy of aluminum, are said to have been successfully prepared by a manufacturer in Saxony. They are superior to those of steel in their freedom from liability to oxidize, in not being affected by magnetism, and in being less liable to rust.

The disturbing echo in public halls, which renders the voice of a speaker indistinct, it is said can be prevented by stretching a few wires across the building, on a level with or above the speaker's head.

For "The Friend"

John Heald.

(Continued from page 118.)

The political troubles, which were caused by the contests between England and France under the government of Napoleon, extended over this country, and finally culminated in what is called the three years' war. The peaceful current of business was much disturbed by the agitations which preceded this, and much suffering was the result. In a letter to John Heald, written 9th mo. 22d, 1811, Benjamin Franklin thus alludes to this subject: "The con- sidered state of the commercial world, by the straining and contending of the governments, renders it very difficult for us, who live by buying and selling, to get along with our business." In his reply, John Heald is led to make some reflections which may convey a useful lesson to some in the present day. He writes under date 10th mo. 29th, 1811: "You have your trials; when that which was once thought safe, is become hazardous, here is a trial; to sit still and do nothing, is not doing advantage; and doing, and that to a disadvantage, is no better; but circumstances require something to be done; industry is that by which those are to live whose circumstances are limited; to be still, is to fall through; and to go on ends in the same—there, I think, is one among the numerous

advantages that is obtained, in setting out early, or closing in with the first visitations of divine love, and endeavoring faithfully to follow on through the varied dispensations that are permitted. For when a trial falls on them, these can look over the motives and inducements to their undertakings; and having been favored with a peaceful evidence from time to time, there is something to recline upon; that though their expectations are disappointed, they feel that they have trodden along, as Job of old did, when he was loaded with afflictions, and when his friends would have persuaded him that he had not stood upright, he could not find his deviation, where it was, if he had made any, but could say, 'I know that my Redeemer liveth, and shall stand upon the earth;' and though in vindicating his innocency, he expressed some things of which he was ashamed when he was called upon to answer to the demands of the Most High, yet he came not under condemnation for having wilfully gone aside, either to the right hand or to the left. So, when the time of trial was over, he was replenished with substance and tranquillity, and passed his days in peace. But when improper motives and inducements have been followed in the will of the creature, or when there has been a turning aside from the right way, and in this situation such have been overtaken in a time of adversity, there is no prop nor support to lean upon, they are reduced to the like state which king Saul was, and for the very same cause, to wit: for not 'obeying the divine command.' So when they are forsaken they may endeavor to make a fair outside show, and even desire to be honored in the sight of the people; but I see but little hope these can have to escape from a time of adversity like unto his, when he 'fell along upon the earth,' and had eaten nothing all that day, nor all that night, and there was no strength left in him. He could not then say, I know that my Redeemer liveth, but could say, 'God has forsaken me, and answereth me no more,' &c. So the time of your adversity may in secret be profitable to some, and even to many, for the more the foundation is tried, the more sure they stand that are upon it, for the foundation of God standeth sure. It has stood through all by past ages, and every storm and shock, and still remains to be the same, and He never fails, nor forsakes those who trust in Him, but is to them a place of broad waters, to refresh themselves from the heat and from the storm, and as a mighty rock in a weary land, and as a tower, whereunto the righteous flee and find safety, as they have ever done.

"While I pen these lines, I am reminded of my own standing, and how near a time of adversity may be; when I consider of the great power which threw the stars down to the ground, even a third part of the stars of the firmament. And I have not arrived above these, no nor to them. If I am worthy to be classed with the stars, it is with those of least magnitude, which can be seen but a small distance. If larger ones are cast down, why not I too. I often am fearful I shall be overtaken in some unguarded moment, and in a day of forgetfulness be surprised and drawn down, and my lot be to fall away, never to see good nor comfort to my soul, but I believe for myself, and for others, that our safety depends upon our faithfulness, that if we closely attend, with the most scrupulous attention to our duty, both as to time and place, and not

to make our own time, but to leave our own business, and our own concerns, to do our Master's business, when and where, and as he may require, and to be given up so to do, not accounting it a yoke of bondage, but cheerfully going, and faithfully doing; in this way we have grounds to hope for preservation, and even in this we may have to venture our lives, in danger of losing them. We may then rely on his merciful support; but if we are dilatory and inattentive, how can we expect the precious favor of protection or preservation."

On the 2nd of 8th mo. 1812, John Heald again wrote to his friend, B. Kite.

"Esteemed Friend,—I received a few days since thy acceptable letter of the 3rd of 6th mo. last. To my mind it savored of a living concern remaining on thy mind to fill up thy allotted portion of duty in time, as it passes along. In this I wish to be one with thee. The peace which flows through the mind so sweetly, and at times along with it a well-grounded hope that at some time we may enter into rest that has no end,—the satisfaction or comfort, who can know who have not felt it! If our little, feeble exertions and labors, in whatever line they may be, are crowned with such a glorious reward, who but would be willing to be employed in such things? Many would have the reward, who seem to want it without submitting to do the little required. I do not doubt but that many miss of very precious enjoyments for want of faithfulness in little things, sometimes by not denying themselves the little gratifications, and sometimes by not carefully doing the little duty required."

After mentioning that Rowland Green, Susannah Horne and Mahlon Hockett, had been in succession visiting their meetings, he again alludes to the unsettlement caused by the war with Great Britain. "'The situation of public affairs appears to spread a gloom over many,' thou observes, and it does here; listing some, drafting some, and some turning out volunteers. The militia are not ordered away, but to be in readiness at a short notice, among whom are several Friends of our Meeting. Noting these things is not pleasant to me, though it seemed necessary just to hint a little, to give some idea that a portion of sufferings may be near to some here, and those not a few—but through all I esteem it a most precious favor to have the mind preserved, and in a still, quiet habitation, where none makes afraid. When I reflect what great numbers there are, who, for want of a more close attention to right things, have not attained thereto, I can but pity them, apprehending that I see so great a loss sustained which a little timely care and attention would have prevented.

I want to know how many Friends in and about the city [of Philadelphia] are doing, and how they are. There are many whom I love and wish well. If they are doing well it would be pleasant to hear of it. In this state of probation we are all, no doubt, tried in some way, and it may be often doubtful where we shall land at last." He enumerates among those of whose welfare he would gladly be informed, Joseph Gibbons, Nathan Harper and wife, Richard Jordan, Richard Cooper, Joseph Clark, Joseph Cruikshank and wife, and Nicholas Waln.

From the same to the same.

"Columbiana Co., Ohio, 1st mo. 13th, 1813.

"Wm. Heald set out day before yesterday,

to meet three other Friends to wait on the Legislature of this State with an address from our Quarterly Meeting in regard to the militia law, as many of our younger men have been drafted for six months, and have not complied with the requisition, and the law is said to be of so doubtful a meaning, that even the officers, to whom the execution of it is referred, are divided about it; some saying that they may impose a fine at their discretion, anywhere between \$8 and \$100 for every month, while others say that they can go no higher than \$100 for any draft. If it should be construed to mean \$100 a month, and be exacted, all the property that many industrious families possess will not be sufficient, it is believed, to answer the demand. The complicated miseries of war are many—but some I trust are escaped to the strong Tower, where they repose themselves in quiet safety, and at times are favored with that which is the reverse thereof, even love, to overshadow and cover, feelingly cover, all the sensitive parts within them—which the bloody warrior can hardly know, while engaged in that employ.”

(To be continued.)

At the request of an aged Friend, I copy the following for the columns of "The Friend," if approved by the editors.

"Upon the 4th day of the Fourth month I was drawn forth to wait on the Lord; and as I was waiting, the consideration of my dear children, whom the Lord had taken to himself in their innocency, came before me, and my soul blessed his holy name for his great love towards them and me, in that they are gone to their rest, and shall never partake of those exercises and sorrows those do that remain in the world. Then my soul was poured forth before the Lord for them that remain, that as they grow up in years, they may grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ; or else I would rather follow them to their graves whilst they are young, than that they should live to the dishonor of his worthy name. And then a more general and weighty concern came upon me for Friends' children, that are grown up and do not come under the yoke nor bear the cross. Oh! the cry that ran through my soul; and in the anguish and bitterness of my spirit I said, Lord, what will thou do with Friends' children when we are gone off the stage of this world; will thou raise up children, and not those of believing parents? And this was the word that livingly sprung up in my soul. They reject my counsel, and cast my law behind their backs, and will have none of my reproofs; and though my hand be stretched forth all the day long, yet they will not hear, but go after their own hearts' lust. Then I said in my heart, Lord, are they all so? The answer was, there are some that are innocent, whom I will bless with a blessing from me, and they shall shine forth to my praise. And now, Oh Friends! that you may dwell and abide in the innocent life, that so the blessing of the Lord you may feel daily to descend upon you. But as for you that 'reject the counsel of the Lord, and cast his law behind your backs, and will have none of his reproofs,' which are sorrowful sayings concerning you who are the children of believing parents,—you who are under the profession of the Truth, which will do you no good unless you return unto the Lord; therefore, I desire you may all return unto him whilst

the day of a long-suffering, merciful God lasteth. But if you still reject the counsel of the Lord, the many faithful warnings you have had, how will you answer it in the day when He cometh 'to render unto every one according to their deeds?' And now, something further is with me to parents of children. Dear friends! you that have been convinced of God's unchangeable truth, and have known the work and operation of it, working out and bringing down that which was of a contrary nature to it,—and oh! that we may all abide faithful in his work, and retain our integrity to the Lord,—then let our breathing cries and prayers be offered up to the Lord for our children, that He would be pleased to look down in mercy upon them, and visit them as He did *our* souls. But as David said, "If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me;" so I desire we may all be clear in our offerings before the Lord, that He may smell a sweet savor from them.

Dear friends: what is here written is with great caution, knowing that I have children of my own, and that many honest parents have had children, which is no small exercise; but if we keep faithful to the Lord, and discharge our duty to them by precept and example, we shall be clear of them in the sight of God. And therefore friends, faithfulness is the word that runs through me; not only for our own souls, but for our children's also; that a generation may grow up to his praise in this part of the world, when our heads are laid in the dust. Great and manifold hath the love and mercy of God been towards us; the consideration of it many times hath deeply affected my mind; and it was He, by the same arm of power, that reached unto us and brought a concern upon us in our own native land: and I do believe, that many had as clear a call to leave their native country as some of old had; which caused many days and nights of sore travail and exercise before the Lord, and no ease could we have, but in giving up life and all unto him, saying, 'Lord do what thou wilt with us, only let thy presence preserve us.' And to his praise we can say, He hath been with us since we came to this country, and hath preserved us through many and various exercises both inwardly and outwardly: and now that which lies on our parts, I desire may be considered by us all, that so suitable returns may be made unto the Lord, by walking in humility and godly fear before him; that so, good patterns we may be, by keeping our places 'to the praise of Him who hath called us,' for He is worthy forevermore. And friends, something more is with me, which I thought to omit, but find I cannot well do it; that is, concerning our children, that we be very careful while they are young, that we suffer them not to wear such things that Truth allows not; and though it may be said they are but little things and well enough for children, but we find that when they are grown up, it is hard for them to leave off, which, may be if they had not been used when young, would not have been expected when grown up: so I desire we may all be clear in ourselves, and keep our children out of the fashions and customs of this world. And oh! that we were all of one heart and mind in these and other things, then would the work of the Lord go on easily, which is the sincere desire of your friend,

HANNAH CARPENTER."

1787.

For "The Friend."

Memoirs and Letters of Sarah Hillman.

(Continued from page 114.)

"1817. 12th mo. 22nd. My mind has for two or three years been oftentimes deeply exercised, under a prospect of being called to the work of the ministry. How has all that within me bowed before the Majesty of heaven and earth when this prospect has been renewedly opened to my view; when presentation and openings have been made and felt, but have thought not sufficiently clear to warrant my standing forth. So awful the work appears, that I have ever craved to be preserved from hastily entering into it, or indeed to run at all, unless clearly convinced that it is indispensably necessary for me, and that the time for my liberation to service is full come. I desire to abide all the necessary purifications, that so none of the dross, tin, or reprobate silver may remain, but every thing which will not abide the fire being purged away and the pure gold only remaining, the glorious cause may be exalted. But O! when I look at my many infirmities, when I contemplate how small the progress made, that what I might by this time have made, I am ready to conclude I shall never become qualified for any service in the Lord's vineyard."

The following letter is the first from Sarah Hillman's pen that has come to the hand of the compiler. She has now reached the 24th year of her age; and, as is sweetly observable, the grace of the Lord Jesus which strives with which woos, and would bring salvation to a disobedient child, is still helping her on to more and greater victories over the enemies of her own house; still leading to the perfection of holiness in the fear of the Lord; still teaching practical, saving lessons of self-denial and the discipline of the cross; still, with its hand maiden prayer, adding thread to thread, and stitch after stitch to the wedding garment clean and white, which is the righteousness of saints.

Would, that more in our day were incited by such examples to "stir up the gift of God that is in them; to take heed to the injunction, "Watch and be sober; to "put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation;" to dedicate their all to Him who is the life and the light of men; to surrender themselves wholly to that Power who can open the blind eye and unstop the deaf ear, and thus make the slave a freeman and, above all, to live to and for that Saviour who died for us, the Just for the unjust, that through repentance and amendment of life He might bring us to God. How then would He lead into green pastures beside the still waters; how create a new heaven and a new earth wherein dwelleth righteousness; how pour out the blessings of his kingdom till there should not be room enough to receive them; how cause that instead of the thorn should come up the fir tree, and instead of the bramble the myrtle tree; and even make that, which now seems but as a wilderness and a desert to bloom and blossom as the rose. The truly the lively hopes and spiritual blessing unto a full cup and sufficient for all our need would be poured into the contrited bosom and the grateful language of the heart be "The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not want." "Thou anointest my head with oil, my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life."

d I will dwell in the house of the Lord ever."

To Betsey Purington.

"Philada., 1st mo. 5th, 1818.

It is not from a belief that my much loved sister (if I may use that endearing term) needs the epistolary aid of a child like myself, that I am induced to address thee, but I trust it is in a measure of that love which lives beyond the grave, and by which the disciples of Jesus are made manifest, according to his testimony—"By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another." Oh this precious love! How does it bind, not only the elder branches with those of like experience, but the young men and children, as they yield thereto are all thereby and as in the 'bundle of life,' and made low heirs of one common salvation. May it continue to pervade our hearts. Mayest thou, dear friend, in thy approaches before the throne of grace, remember the children; so feel that they have need of the prayers of the faithful; of those in whom the expressive language of conduct speaks saying, 'Follow me;' and who evince themselves conquerors, through the sufficiency of the Father's love. Mayest thou remember her who now addresses thee under the appellation of sister, who feels need,

child beset with solemn prospects round, While called to tread with awe the sacred ground,' and that many are the trials necessary for our purification in this scene of probation, but who knows that her helper is Almighty. He is the leader and the guide of his people, indeed strength in weakness, riches in poverty, and a present helper in every time of need, every time of conflict, in every winter season; though fogs and clouds obscure the light of the Sun of Righteousness from the eye of the mind, yet he is the same; He sustains the character of the Shepherd of Israel, and will use, as he is waited upon in the patience, healing under his wings. Then since Christian has such a blessed and heavenly helper, there is need for him to gird up the reins of his mind, and hope to the end; there is need for him to be a grateful receiver of so manifold favors of his Heavenly Father, while well may he in the language of the poet break forth,

'I'll praise thee for thy mercies past,
And humbly sue for more.'

And although a little from his munificent and satisfy the hungry soul, yet the manna which the golden pot contains, must be sought for. Under the law they were commanded to go forth and gather every man according to his eating daily; so must we. And, as unto that dispensation, 'he who gathered much had nothing over, so he that gathered little child-like faithfulness, had no lack;' how beautifully is it descriptive of the duty of a Christian! He is not called upon to work or rest only a day or a week, but the command is, 'Watch and pray continually, that ye enter not into temptation.' * * * * I greatly desire to be preserved from burdening thee with words without life, but think I may just add, that when thine and thy companions' certificates were read, the desire of my heart was, that ye might so fulfil the work assigned you, that ye might receive that crown of peace which the world can neither give nor take away; and now feeling it renewed, I afresh desire that as we have parted together of the streams of that river

which makes glad the whole heritage of God, we may continue to feel that unity which is with the Father and with the Son; and although we never meet again, our souls may still hold converse; and when these bodies are consigned to their mother earth, our spirits shall join that innumerable multitude which John saw, in crying Holy forevermore.

Farewell beloved friends, farewell. - From your little friend,

SARAH HILLMAN.

Oh! that you may remember her and crave that she may be favored to know his voice certain, and his discoveries clear; not Ahimaaz like, have to say, 'when I ran, there was a tumult, but I knew not what it was.'

Again I say, farewell."

1819. 9th mo. 9th. Truly the awful importance of time has of late been proclaimed. The messenger upon the pale horse has arrested some in an unexpected moment; but we trust their lamps were measurably trimmed. May we who remain be engaged to meet our God. Perhaps ere another year, I too may be summoned to appear before his dread tribunal who giveth not account of his matters. Oh! that, through unreserved dedication, an entrance may be mercifully granted into that city whose walls are salvation, and whose gates eternal praise."

(To be continued.)

THE FRIEND.

TWELFTH MONTH 6, 1873.

We have been watching with much interest, and some anxiety, the development and character of the difficulty that, within the last few weeks, has grown up between the United States Government and that of Spain. It is a cause of regret, though not of surprise, to observe how quickly and how generally the public mind has been agitated by the statements made by the press, and how glibly the initiation of war is spoken of, without counting the cost in human life, and attendant misery.

That a sanguinary and barbarous revenge has been taken by the enraged Spaniards on those who were on board the noted vessel, captured by them, in which cold blooded murder was committed under color of military law, appears to be generally believed; and the number of the victims, and the peculiar circumstances attending the butchery of so many subjects of different nations, has shocked the feeling of the community in both Europe and America. It is precisely one of those cases fitted to arouse the passions of the people; to appeal to what the unregenerate world calls the sense of national honor, in our own citizens, and to precipitate unreasoning and hasty action under the excited impulse of the hour.

Especially is there danger of some summary and rash course being pursued, where, as in the present case, there are parties widely spread throughout the community, whose interest and pleasure it is, to paint the transaction in its most revolting colors; to brand any hesitancy in seeking "redress" as cowardly and mean, and to stimulate the already excited passions of the people by inflammatory appeals to their self-esteem, and their warlike instincts. But for this, we apprehend, there would not have been such hot haste to prepare to strike a blow, which, if given, would be followed by all the calamities of war.

To the true disciple of the Prince of Peace, all the circumstances of this deplorable case,—the voyaging of this well-known blockade-runner; her loading; the use intended to be made of her cargo; her capture, and the savage sacrifice of a large part of her crew and passengers to gratify the vindictive passions of her captors—all are readily recognizable as altogether unauthorized and indefensible by the religion of the New Testament. But it is one of the terrible evils of the war policy, to familiarize the people to many and great infractions of the benign and just principles of the gospel, and to reconcile them to have their actions regulated by the far lower standard of expediency and the law of nations. Hence we hear, on the present occasion, much said about the necessity to disregard the notorious character of the vessel, and the business in which it is admitted she was engaged, and to demand immediate and humiliating concessions from Spain; because it so happens that while the "Virginian" was pursuing her nefarious trade, she had in some way, long ago procured American registration, and carried the American flag. The honor of the flag, we are told, must be upheld; and in order to do homage to this fascinating myth, this great country might seem to be on the eve of a war, fastened on it, with all its guilt and horrors, by a few men, whose actions have shown them to be blood-thirsty desperadoes. And this in a professedly christian country, whose government and people have just been boasting of the beautiful example set by it and Great Britain in settling a dispute of far greater magnitude by arbitration. How true are the words of our Saviour, "How can ye believe which receive honor one from another, and seek not the honor which cometh from God only."

The Law of Nations refers almost exclusively to the mode of, and the circumstances connected with waging war; and though it is gratifying to observe that christianity is gradually removing some of its most repulsive features, and introducing others more in accordance with the requirements of our professed religion, yet it is no criterion by which a Christian may decide what is right or wrong. The absurdity of supposing, that while men are individually bound to live consistently with the benign and peaceable principles of the religion of Christ, when associated as a nation they may lay those principles aside, and regulate their actions by a code designed merely to restrain the corrupt lusts that war in their members, from betraying them into the extremes of inhumanity, is too glaring to escape the notice of any reflecting mind.

At such a time of excitement as the present, it becomes the duty of every one to refrain, in both word and deed, from encouraging the war spirit which many seem very desirous to spread, and as opportunity presents, to exert whatever influence he or she may possess, in endeavoring to propagate more rational and christian views and feelings; that so, with the blessing of Divine Providence, our country may not madly incur again, the awful crimes, the sufferings and the irreparable losses that so severely punished the people during the late war, and under which they are still smarting.

Since the above was written, we rejoice to find that the danger of hostilities between the two governments is very much lessened, and

there is reason to believe, that if Spain is able to carry out her portion of the terms agreed on, all ground for contention will be removed, and both countries escape the dreadful conflict into which they appeared likely to be plunged.

SUMMARY OF EVENTS.

FOREIGN.—The Spanish Cabinet has agreed to deliver to the United States government the steamship *Virginius*, and all the persons remaining alive who were captured with her, leaving the question whether the seizure of the vessel was legal, to be settled hereafter by a mixed tribunal. The question whether damages shall be paid to the families or relations of the prisoners who were shot, is also to be settled in a similar manner. A Madrid dispatch says, this decision is in conformity with the opinions of the leading Spanish statesmen, of all parties, to whom the question was submitted by the government.

The negotiations by which the controversy was settled, were conducted in Washington between the Spanish Minister, Admiral Polo, and the United States Secretary of State, and were brought to a conclusion the 29th ult. A protocol was then agreed upon and signed, and the Spanish Minister telegraphed the result to his government.

A Havana dispatch of the 30th says: The news of the settlement of the *Virginius* question, and the terms upon which it is based, was received here with much excitement. The chief authorities of the island assembled in conference, have sent a manifesto to the Spanish government, asking it to wait until it shall have received a protocol in relation to the case, which will show the right of capture and the justice of the subsequent proceedings. The mass of the people oppose the surrender of the *Virginius*.

The insurgents still hold Cartagena, and seem determined on a desperate resistance. The besieging force are bombarding the city. The arsenal and barracks have been the chief marks for the besieging artillery, but the cathedral and hospitals have also been struck. On the 28th ult. the theatre, and two entire streets were destroyed, and about 200 persons were killed and wounded in the city. The insurgents have raised the black flag on the forts. There is great distress among the non-combatants who have taken refuge in the suburbs.

A German expedition for the exploration of the Lybian desert, under the direction of Dr. Gerhard Rohlfs, is expected to set out from Egypt early in the present month.

Several Italian newspapers report that a number of Italian, French, Belgian, German and Austrian capitalists are about to form a company for the purchase of the convent property at Rome. Their intention is said to be to leave the monks and nuns in possession of the property and the convent buildings, and thus to render the law suppressing the religious orders at Rome illusory.

The Bazaine trial continues. Rouher has given his testimony in relation to the negotiations of the Empress Eugenie, in the endeavor to save the Rhine army and avoid the cession of territory. General Boyer testified that Bismarck told him he was willing to grant an armistice if the army of Metz would declare in favor of Napoleon.

The French Cabinet has been reconstructed: Beule, who was Minister of the Interior, has retired, and De Broglie takes his place. The Duke de Cases, the only new minister, takes the Foreign Office in place of De Broglie. These are the only changes reported.

The Assembly rejected Leon Say's interpellation in regard to the illegal delay of elections, by a vote of 364 to 314.

The Augsburg Gazette says, the King of Bavaria has signed a decree repealing the concordat with the Pope.

The explanations given by the French government in regard to the pastoral of the Bishop of Nancy, ordering prayers for the recovery of Metz and Strasburg, are regarded in Berlin as unsatisfactory.

Sentence has been pronounced against Archbishop Ledochowksi, for continuing unlawfully to institute priests. He is condemned to two years imprisonment and an additional fine of \$5400. Bailiffs entered the residence of the archbishop last week, in accordance with the decree of the court, and seized the furniture. He expresses surprise at the severity of the measure, and maintains an attitude of resistance. A Berlin dispatch of the 26th says, the archbishop has been ordered to resign within a week of the notice. He has received a letter from the Pope exhorting him to firmness.

The Bank of England has reduced the rate of discount to 6 per cent.

Sir John Duke Coleridge, Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas, is to be raised to the peerage. He will become Baron Coleridge.

The ship *Clyde*, from St. John, N. B., has been wrecked off Valentia, Ireland. Ten of the crew were drowned.

A small boat made from the *Polaris*, which the whaler *Ravenscraig* took on board when she received Captain Buddington, will be sent from Glasgow to New York. It will be placed in the Smithsonian Institution at Washington.

A proposal of the Erie Railway Company is published in the *Railway News*. The Company proposes an issue of \$22,000,000 more of ordinary Erie shares at \$35 currency, instead of issuing more bonds. This proposal, it says, will be a measure of greater financial soundness, and will make the total share capital \$100,000,000.

Dispatches from Cape Coast Castle report another engagement with the Ashantees, in which forty English and native auxiliaries were killed and wounded. The Ashantees also boldly attacked the British in another place, but were driven off after an hour's fight. General Wolseley, commanding the Ashantee expedition, condemns the native auxiliaries as worthless. Their tardiness and cowardice, he says, keep him from advancing upon the Ashantees.

Intelligence has reached London of a terrible marine disaster. The steamship *Ville du Havre*, which left New York on the 15th ult. for Havre, when one week out, came in collision with the British steamship *Loch Earn*, from London for New York, and sunk shortly after. Eighty-seven persons were saved by the boats of the *Loch Earn*, and sent to England by the ship *Trimountain*. Two hundred and twenty-six of the passengers lost their lives. The *Loch Earn* was badly damaged by the collision, and immediately put about for Queenstown, but had not arrived there on the first inst.

UNITED STATES.—There were 269 interments in Philadelphia last week, including 47 deaths of consumption, 13 inflammation of the lungs, 17 debility, 11 typhoid fever, 11 old age.

The deaths in New York city last week were 492.

According to the State census of Iowa, the population of the State is 1,251,533. The national census of 1870 gave it a population of 1,191,792.

General Sherman's report to the Secretary of War shows a total of 25,535 enlisted men in the cavalry, artillery and infantry service, and 3,970 non-combatants. The actual strength for military service, after deducting the sick list and necessary details about the numerous forts, he thinks does not exceed 19,652 men.

The Secretary of the Navy, in his report to the President, says there are now in the navy 165 vessels, carrying 1269 guns, which is a reduction since the last annual report, of thirteen vessels.

The expedition organized under the authority of Congress for the survey of the Darien and Nicaragua routes, with the view to the construction of a ship canal between the Atlantic and Pacific, have completed the service. It is stated that the route selected by Commander Selfridge includes one hundred miles of river navigation of the Atrato. It is estimated that the work would cost between \$50,000,000 and \$60,000,000.

The total number of immigrants from other countries landed in the United States during the year ending 6th mo. 30th last, was 459,833, of whom 275,792 were males, and 184,011 females.

The Public Debt of the United States, less cash in the Treasury, amounted on the first instant to \$2,150,862,054, having increased \$9,028,576 during the 11th month.

The first session of the Forty-third Congress convened in Washington on the first inst., quorums being present in both Houses. The House of Representatives now has 292 members, of whom 278 answered at roll call. James G. Blaine, who was Speaker of the last Congress, was re-elected by a large majority.

A local census of the city of Baltimore, just taken, gives a population of 302,893, an increase of 19,823 over that of 1870, which was 283,070.

The Markets, &c.—The following were the quotations on the first inst. *New York*.—American gold, 108½. Superfine flour, \$5.65 a \$6.35; State extra, \$6.80 a \$7.15; finer brands, \$7.50 a \$10.25. Red western, wheat, \$1.58 a \$1.60; No. 2 Chicago spring, \$1.50. Oats, 56½ a 59 cts. State rye, \$1.03. Western yellow corn, 77 cts.; white, 76 a 80 cts. *Philadelphia*.—Midlings cotton, 16½ a 17½ cts. for uplands and New Orleans. Superfine flour, \$4.50 a \$5; extras, \$5.25 a \$5.75; finer brands, \$6 a \$10. White wheat, \$1.70 a \$1.80; amber, \$1.67 a \$1.70; red, \$1.55 a \$1.70; choice spring, \$1.60. Rye, 85 cts. Yellow corn, 73 a 74 cts.

Oats, 49 a 53 cts. Sales of about 2200 beef cattle at to 7½ cts. per lb. gross. Sheep, 4½ a 6 cts. per lb. gross. Hogs, \$6.75 a \$7 per 100 lbs. net. Receipts 8.0 head. *Chicago*.—Spring extra flour, \$5.50 a \$5.75. No. 1 spring wheat, \$1.10; No. 2 do., \$1.08. No. 2 mixed corn, 47 cts. No. 2 barley, \$1.39 a \$1.40. Lard, cts. *Milwaukee*.—No. 1 spring wheat, \$1.13; No. \$1.08. No. 2 mixed corn, 49½ cts. Oats, 34½ cts.

FOR RENT

To a Friend, the small dwelling on the meeting-house property, West Philadelphia. An oversight of property will be accepted as part of the rent.

Apply to

JOHN C. ALLEN, Forrest Building, 119 South Fourth street.

HENRY HAINES, 512 Walnut street.

FRIENDS' BOARDING SCHOOL FOR INDIA CHILDREN, TUNESASSA, NEW YORK.

A teacher of the school will be wanted at the commencement of the Spring term.

Application may be made to

Ebenezer Worth, Marshallton, Chester Co., Pa.
Joseph Scattergood, 413 Spruce St., Philada.
Aaron Sharpless, Street Road P. O., Chester Co., Pa.
Thomas Wistar, Fox Chase P. O., Philada.

WESTTOWN BOARDING SCHOOL.

As the stations of Superintendent and Matron of the Institution are expected to be vacated at the close of the Winter Session, in the 4th month next, Friends who may feel drawn to undertake the duties attached to them, are requested to communicate thereon with either of the following named members of the Committee.

Nathaniel N. Stokes, Cinnaminson Post-office, Burlington Co., N. J.
Charles Evans, No. 702 Race St., Philadelphia.
Deborah Rhoads, Haddonfield, N. J.
Rebecca S. Allen, No. 335 S. Fifth St., Phila.

FRIENDS' ASYLUM FOR THE INSANE.

Near Frankford, (Twenty-third Ward,) Philadelphia. Physician and Superintendent—JOSHUA H. WORTINGTON, M. D.

Applications for the Admission of Patients may be made to the Superintendent, or to any of the Board Managers.

DIED, on Sixth-day, 11th mo. 7th, 1873, in the 97th year of his age, SAMUEL W. JONES, a much esteemed member of the Monthly Meeting of Friends of Philadelphia for the Western District.

—, at West Chester, Pa., on the 9th ult., JAMES MILLER SCARLETT, son of John and Catharine Scarlett formerly of Robeson, Berks Co., Pa., aged 26 years. This dear young Friend it might perhaps be said, he came nearer exemplifying the truth of the declaration of the Psalmist, than most of the present generation: "Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his ways, by taking heed thereto according to thy word." It is not desired that any extended obituary notice should be published, but in these days of mournful declension and backsliding among us, it is refreshing the weary traveller Zionward, to meet with one who great simplicity did endeavor "to cleanse his ways taking heed thereto according to thy word." An innocent cheerfulness of countenance and deportment, united with uprightness and firmness in adhering to what he believed to be right, were conspicuous traits in the life of our young friend. He was one of the few of the present day, who believed it right to adhere scrupulously to a plain costume during his life, and near its close requested that his funeral should be conducted in a similar manner. His illness was of long duration, during which he was careful in using words expressive of his inward state, fearing, as he said, lest he "should give away all he had." For some time previous to his close it pleased his Heavenly Father to try his faith a season of strippedness and desertion, which continued at times for several weeks, but the day before his departure he said, "I have been mercifully shown that my way is clear," and his friends have the consolation and belief that what is their loss, is, through adorable mercy, his eternal gain.

WILLIAM H. PILE, PRINTER.

No. 422 Walnut Street.